

REMARKS

Applicants have now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Advisory Action of October 25, 2004.

All of the Examiner's objections and rejections are traversed.

Reexamination and reconsideration are requested.

State of the Claims

Claims 2, 3 and 5 have been previously canceled.

Claims 4, 6-9, 15 and 17-20 have been allowed.

Claims 1, 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims 10-14 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ojha (US Patent No. 4,987,447) in view of Kurogane (US Patent No. 5,126,858).

Summary of the Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 10-14 and 16 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

The Present Claims Distinguish Patentably over the Applied Reference(s)

Regarding claims 4, 6-9, 15 and 17-20, the Examiner's recognition of the allowable nature of these claims is greatly appreciated. Claims 1, 10-14 and 16 have been canceled. Accordingly, any rejections and/or objections thereto are rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is submitted all claims remaining in the application are now in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

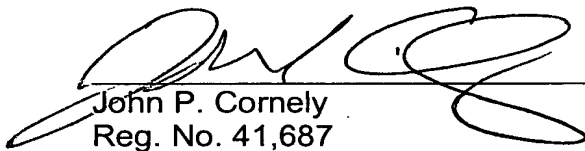
No additional fee is believed to be required for this Supplemental Amendment After Final. However, the undersigned attorney of record hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Deposit Account No. 24-0037.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to call John P. Cornely, at Telephone Number (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 1, 2004
Date



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Certificate of Mailing

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I certify that this Amendment is being

- ☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail, addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.
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